Pricing of petroleum product

†1333. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kirit S. Parikh to give suggestions for fixing the basis of consumer sale prices of petroleum products in the country;

(b) if so, whether any representative of the common consumer has been included in the committee as a member;

(c) if so, the name of member;

(d) whether the committee has to give suggestions on other matters also apart from matters related to fixing of sale price; and

(e) if so, the details of these matters and whether committee has been asked to think further keeping in view the current system of under recovery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government has constituted an Expert Group on 31.08.2009 under the chairmanship of Dr. Kirit S. Parikh, former Member, Planning Commission to examine the current pricing policy of the four sensitive petroleum products; namely, Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG and to make recommendations for a viable and sustainable pricing policy for these products. The Group's terms of reference include:

(i) Examination of the current taxation structure on the sensitive petroleum products, with particular reference to Petrol and Diesel and make recommendations to rationalize the taxes levied by the Central and State Government.

(ii) Examination of the financial health of the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies and to recommend ways of compensating them for their under-recoveries in case they are not permitted to charge market prices as a result of Government's intervention, in order to protect consumers.

(iii) Any other matter, which the Expert Group may consider necessary.

The composition of the Expert Group is given below:

1.	Dr. Kirit S. Parikh Former Member, Planning Commission	Chairman
2.	Dr. Isher J. Ahluwalia Chairperson, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)	Member

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

3.	Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance	Member
4.	Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	Member
5.	Shri Suman K. Beri,. Director General, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)	Member

Pipavav Power Project

1334. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Gujarat requested to the Central Government for allocation of 3.15 million cubic metres a day (MSCMD) gas for Pipavav Power Project;

(b) if so, when it was submitted by the State Government; and

(c) the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Gujarat has sent proposal in this regard to Central Government on 02.09.2009.

(c) The entire gas produced from PMT is already committed and is being sold by the Government nominee, *viz*., GAIL (India) Limited, to various priority sectors customers. As regards gas produced from KG D-6 field, it has been decided that, subject to the availability of gas, necessary allocations from KG D-6 fields will be made to these projects as and when they are ready to commence production.

Gas flare in Assam

1335. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total volume of associated gas produced and volume flared annually during the last three years in Assam indicating value of such gas flared;

(b) the utility pattern of such associated gas including production of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) or cooking gas and other petrochemical products;

(c) the present percentage of utilization of the un-flared gas component-wise;

(d) the plan of Government, if any, for productive utilization of this national asset including investment proposals made by his Ministry; and

(e) the quantum of carbon emitted to the environment by the flared gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The year wise total volume of associated gas produced, Gas flared and the value of flared gas in Assam for the last three years are given below: